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MARADONA REUNITES WITH HAND OF GOD

SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN @Chennai

EVERY so often, an athlete shows the world the possibilities of talent. Every so often, an athlete shows that it is possible to inspire millions among millions. Every so often, an athlete shows the world it is possible to make athiests believe. Diego Armando Maradona made the world believe that he was a superior being, sent down to inspire, spread joy and elevate the potential of The Beautiful Game.

On Wednesday, the Argentine great passed away after a heart attack following a brain surgery earlier this month. The 60-year-old's death shocked not only the football world but the wider community as well. In a year that has brought about unprecedented chaos to the world, Maradona's passing away will arguably be the single most piece of news that will reverberate with the most. Hailing from Villa Fiorita, one of Argentina's poorer localities, he conquered the world in 1986. He will be live on in memories of videos describing his immortal abilities with a football. P17

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TRICHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • WARANGAL • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

NIVAR-AN, AS CHENNAI SPARED

Cyclone moves on fresh path, skips Chennai, Delta districts | Slow-moving weather system makes landfall at 10.30 pm | Public holiday today in 16 TN districts and in Puducherry

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Chennai

Fire officials rescue people affected by the flood due to incessant rains at Velachery in Chennai on Wednesday | ASHWIN PRASATH

IT was a nail-biter, as the severe cyclonic storm 'Nivar' kept shifting its movement and patterns – keeping both public and disaster managers on tenterhooks – until it made landfall at 10.30 pm on Wednesday. As per the weather update received at 11.15 pm, the slow-moving storm is likely to cross the Tamil Nadu-Puducherry coast, 30 km north of Puducherry, around 2 am Thursday.

Despite the initial threats, the cyclone spared Chennai and the Delta districts by taking a new path. However, under the influence of the weather system, these districts received very heavy rainfall. As per the weather bulletin issued at 11.15 pm, "the storm was located 50 km east-northeast of Cuddalore, and 115 km away from Chennai."

"It would take three hours for the centre of the cyclone to cross the coast and reach land," said S Balachandran, Deputy Director General of Meteorology at RMC. "Wind speed would be around 120-130 kmph, gusting at 145 kmph. Even after landfall, the system is likely to maintain its cyclone intensity for about six hours and then weaken gradually." Northern Tamil Nadu and Delta districts will continue to receive heavy rainfall, as will southern parts of Andhra Pradesh.

In the last three days alone, Chennai has received over 30 cm of rainfall as a result of the cyclonic impact. Several areas of Chennai witnessed waterlogging despite high-technology machinery being deployed to clear out blockages. Low-lying areas and former lake-beds that have now turned into habitations were flooded. The airport was shut for 12 hours and small aircraft were moved to safer spots. Even before the actual storm hit, the city lost 80 trees to rain and strong winds.

Addressing the media earlier in the evening, minister RB Udhayakumar said that over 1.2 lakh people have been shifted to relief camps from vulnerable areas in the Delta districts.

CONTINUED ON: P7

Karnataka braces for Nivar impact, alert in some parts

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru/Mysuru

WITH Cyclone Nivar headed for the Tamil Nadu coast, most parts of south-interior and coastal Karnataka are expected to receive rainfall for the next two days and also witness a dip in temperature.

Speaking about Karnataka's preparedness, CM B S Yediyurappa said that the government has taken all precautionary measures as heavy rain is expected in Bengaluru and neighbouring districts. "I have directed the district authorities to take all necessary measures. An alert has been sounded in a few places while rescue and relief personnel have been placed on standby," he said.

The India Meteorological Department has issued a yellow alert for Bengaluru Urban, Bengaluru Rural, Kolar, Chikkaballapur, Mandya and Tumkuru districts on November 25 and 26. Meanwhile, the South Western Railways has cancelled two trains originating from Bengaluru to Chennai on Thursday.

Will complete term as CM, signals BSY

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Mysuru

AMID on-and-off talk of a change of guard in the state, CM B S Yediyurappa on Wednesday sought to send out a clear message that he will complete his term in office.

Yediyurappa told reporters that reconstruction of the famous Mallikarjuna Swamy Temple at Mudukuthore in Mysuru district, will be completed within the next two years, during his tenure as CM. He announced ₹10 crore for the temple project and promised additional funds in the second phase.

Yediyurappa, who is on a three-day tour of Mysuru and Chamarajanagar to launch various development works, also said the party top brass will give its nod for cabinet expansion in next two days. P4

D K SHIVAKUMAR APPEARS BEFORE CBI

The KPCC chief was summoned in a disproportionate assets case. He was grilled for more than an hour at the agency office | P4

Congress loses its best backroom crisis manager

RICHA SHARMA @New Delhi

AHMED Patel's demise couldn't have come at a worse time for the Congress, which is struggling to deal with the revolt by a group of veteran leaders seeking radical changes in the party. His death could, however, pave the way for organisational and generational changes in the party.

Ahmed Patel
Aug 21, 1949 • Nov 25, 2020

Patel, 71, who passed away in a Gurugram hospital on Wednesday following complications related to Covid-19, was known for his political acumen to take everyone, including the warring young and old guards, together.

CONTINUED ON: P9

Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited

Devanahalli Hardware Park

2X500 MVA 400/220 kV Sub-Station

in Bagaluru Village, Yelahanka Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District.

Inauguration by
Sri B.S. Yediyurappa
Hon'ble Chief Minister

Virtual Inauguration Programme Date: 26.11.2020 Time: 5.00 PM

Salient Features:

- Cost of the Project: Rs. 450 Crores
- Will cater to increased demand of the region having IT/BT Park, Aero Space Park, SEZ, and upcoming industries
- Improve Voltage profile to 220 kV Sub-Stations in Hosakote, Doddaballapura, Gowribidanuru, Aero Space S/S, Devanahalli Hardware Park S/S, BIAL S/S and Manyata Techpark S/S.
- Transmission of Power generated at 2000 Megawatt Ultra Mega Solar Power Plant at Pavagada to Bengaluru through this Sub-Station
- 1st time in Bengaluru – 400kV Gas Insulated Station using modern technology as in developed countries

Presided by
Sri C.B. Krishna Byre Gowda
Hon'ble Former Minister and MLA, Byatarayanapura Assembly Constituency

Chief Guests

Sri D.V. Sadananda Gowda
Hon'ble Minister for Chemicals and Fertilizers, GoI

Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman
Hon'ble Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs, GoI

Dr. C.N. Ashwath Narayan
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister & Minister for Higher Education, IT & BT and Science and Technology

Sri Laxman S. Savadi
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister & Minister for Transport

Sri Govind M. Karjol
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister & Minister for Public Works

Special Invitees
All Hon'ble Ministers of GoK, Hon'ble President, Bengaluru Zilla Panchayat, all Hon'ble MLAs, Loksabha & Rajyasabha Members of Bengaluru City

August Presence
Hon'ble Leader of Opposition Party, Legislative Council, Hon'ble MLCs, Hon'ble President, Yelahanka Taluk Panchayat (In Charge) and Hon'ble President, Bagaluru Gram Panchayat.

Cordial welcome to invitees

Kapil Mohan, IAS
Principal Secretary to Govt. Energy Department

Dr. N. Manjula, IAS
Managing Director KPTCL

B.K. Udaykumar, B.E. (E)
Director (Transmission) KPTCL

Siddlingappa Teli, IRS
Director (Finance) KPTCL

G.M. Gangadhara Swamy, KAS
Director (Admn. & H.R) KPTCL

As is enshrined in our Constitution, to develop the scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform is the fundamental duty of every citizen of the country.

STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19. NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene